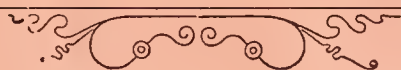


*Borough of Burslem.*



ANNUAL 

 REPORT

OF THE

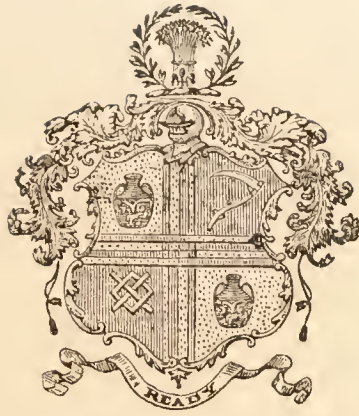
*Medical Officer of Health,*

FOR 1896.

HULME, PRINTER, BURSLEM.







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TO THE

*SANITARY COMMITTEE*

OF THE

*Borough of Burslem*

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present a Report of the state of health, vital statistics, and sanitary condition of the Borough of Burslem for the year ending December 31st, 1896.

The population of the Borough in 1891, was 31,199. The estimated population in June 1896, calculated at the same rate of increase as in the ten years 1881 to 1891, would be 34,231. The area of the Borough is now 2,585 acres.

The Births in the Borough in 1896 amounted to 1356, in 1895 they numbered 1299. The birth-rate for 1896, calculated on the population at the middle of the year, was 39·6. Of the Births, 694 were male and 662 females.

The Deaths in 1896 numbered 704, exceeding those of 1895 by 5. The annual death-rate was 20·5 per 1000. Of the deaths, 347 were males, and 357 females, and 78, or 11·0 per cent of the whole were in persons over 65 years of age.

The Births and Deaths in 1896 were as follows :—

### BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1896.

1896.	BIRTHS.				DEATHS.			
	No.	Rate per 1000	Males	Fem'ls	No.	Rate per 1000.	Males	Fem'ls
January ...	121	42·6	58	63	65	22·9	23	42
February ...	123	43·2	65	58	59	20·7	33	26
March ...	101	36·5	43	59	58	20·3	28	30
April ...	104	36·5	50	54	46	16·1	25	21
May ...	116	40·7	60	56	42	14·7	24	18
June ...	101	35·4	49	52	39	13·6	24	15
July ...	100	35·0	51	49	54	18·8	23	31
August ...	117	40·9	69	48	86	30·0	43	43
September ...	129	45·0	71	58	55	19·2	21	34
October ...	88	30·7	44	44	48	16·7	26	22
November ...	121	42·1	59	62	66	23·0	33	33
December ...	135	47·0	76	59	86	29·9	44	42
Total ...	1356	39·56 mean for 12 months.	694	662	704	20·49 mean for 12 months.	347	357

### DEATHS, 1896.

1896.	all ages	under 1 yr.	1 yr. & under 5 yrs.	5 yrs. & under 15 yrs.	15 yrs & under 25 yrs.	25 yrs & under 65 yrs.	65 yrs & upw'ds.
January ...	65	28	8	4	3	18	4
February ...	59	22	9	4	3	18	3
March ...	58	18	21	2	2	8	7
April ...	46	18	6	2	1	11	8
May ...	42	9	10		5	12	6
June ...	39	16	4	1		13	5
July ...	54	35	3	2	1	9	4
August ...	86	55	6		2	16	7
September ...	55	21	10	5	2	8	9
October ...	48	16	3	3	3	17	6
November ...	66	22	9	2	5	18	10
December ...	86	34	20	4	1	18	9
Total ...	704	294	109	29	28	116	78

The average Birth rate during the 21 years, from 1876 to 1896, was 39·8 per 1000, and the Death rate 22·3 per 1000. The Birth rate has varied from 43·0 per 1000 in 1882, to 35·9 in 1880, and the Death rate from 28·5 in 1888, to 17·9 in 1879.

The Birth rate for the Borough in 1896 was only very slightly under the average of the above 21 years ; the Death rate for 1896 was considerably below the average of the same period.

The highest Birth rate of 1896 was 47·0 per 1000 in December, and the lowest 30·7 in October.

The highest Death rate in 1896 was 30·0 per 1000 in August, and the lowest 13·6 in June.

In 1896, the deaths from Zymotic diseases included 46 from Measles 6 Scarlatina, 6 Diphtheria, 10 Croup, 14 Whooping cough, 9 typhoid fever, 2 continued fever, 2 influenza, 66 Diarrhæa.

The deaths from seven chief Zymotic diseases in 1896, numbered 149 ; this was a greater number than in 1895, and Measles was the cause of a very large proportion of the mortality. This disease prevailed very widely during the early part of the year, and the day schools of the Borough were closed from the beginning of February to the middle of April. Whooping-cough was also very prevalent during the spring and autumn months.

Influenza appeared again in 1896, though not so extensively as in 1895.

The Zymotic death rate of 1896, was 4·3 per 1000, a higher rate than for several years past. In 1895 it was 2·6 per 1000, in 1894, 1·6. This increased rate was due to the number of deaths from measles, whooping-cough and diarrhæa.

In 33 large towns of England, in 1896, the Zymotic death rate was 2·86 per 1000. The mortality in infants under one year in London in 1896 was equal to 161 per 1000 of the births registered ; in 32 provincial towns it averaged 172 per 1000 ; in Burslem it was 216 per 1000.

During 1896, the birth rate in London was equal to 30·2 per 1000 and 31·1 in the 32 provincial towns.

The Death rate in 1896 was equal in London to 18·6 per 1000, and averaged 19·1 in the 32 provincial towns, ranging from 14·2 in Croydon, 15·7 in Derby, 20·8 in Birmingham, 22·6 in Manchester and Salford, and 22·7 in Liverpool.

The deaths in infants under 5 years of age in 1896 amounted to 403, this was equal to 57·2 per cent of the whole, or a mortality of 11·7 per 1000 of the population at all ages. In 1895 the infant mortality was 49·2 per cent, in 1894, 50 per cent, of the whole, in 1892 412, in 1889 534.

Amongst deaths from constitutional diseases were 16 from cancer, 1 gangrene, 34 marasmus, (under 5 years) 39 phthisis, 2 hydrocephalus.

Among local diseases were 11 deaths from apoplexy, 15 paralysis, 1 epilepsy, 64 convulsions (63 under 5 years) 23 diseases of brain, 30 diseases of heart, 109 diseases of respiratory organs, 50 of digestive organs, 13 of urinary organs.

Among developmental diseases, were 23 cases of premature birth, 4 malformations, 15 teething, 8 childbirth, 32 old age (average being 77 years) atrophy and debility, 33.

Amongst deaths due to violence or accidents, were 1 fracture, 1 burns, 1 poison, 1 drowning, 1 suffocation, 2 suicide, (hanging and cut throat.

Two causes ill-defined.

There were 14 inquests held in the Borough during the year, a much smaller number than in 1895.

Amongst Sanitary improvements effected during 1896, the sewerage system of the town has been further extended, and outlying parts connected.

The making up of streets and the paving of back roads are still being proceeded with.

Very beneficial public improvements have been carried out in Newcastle Street, and High Street, and the latter is being paved, a much needed improvement.

The waste water closets are still being adopted in old properties, a great improvement on the old privy system, the cess pools of which are a constant nuisance

Night soil and house refuse removals have been carried out in a fairly satisfactory way by the teams of the Borough. Much night-soil has been burned in the Destructor, mixed with ashes. The ashes were disposed of by the Destructor, and by deposition on tips.

The water supply has been good and copious during the year.

Overcrowding of dwellings has been observed in 6 cases, and measures taken for abatement, without legal proceedings.

The Slaughter-houses in the Borough have been inspected frequently during the year, and their condition as to cleanliness, &c. found to be satisfactory.

The Cowsheds, Milkshops and Dairies have been inspected during the year, and their state proved satisfactory.

The Canal Boats passing through the Borough have been kept under supervision, in one case a breach of regulations was discovered and remedied.

Inspections have been made under the Factories and Workshops' Acts, and improvements made where sanitary defects existed.

Two prosecutions for the sale of unwholesome meat were carried out in 1896, and a conviction obtained in each case.

Your Sanitary Inspector reports as to removal of nuisances during 1896 :—

No. of complaints received during 1896, exclusive of applications for removal of night-soil and ashes ...	52
No. of houses and premises &c., inspected, about ...	1840
Re-inspections ... ..	415
Orders issued for sanitary improvements ... ..	346
Houses and premises cleansed, repaired and lime-washed	166
Houses disinfected after infectious diseases ...	100
House drains repaired, cleansed and trapped including provision for kitchen slop stones ... ..	114
Privies and W.C's. repaired &c. ... ..	185
Premises without ash-pits, where tubs have been adopted and cleansed once a fortnight ... ..	170
Defective spouting repaired ... ..	14
Loads of ashes removed to Destructor in 1896 ...	3643
Loads of ashes removed to Tips in 1896 ...	5405
Barrels and carts of night-soil removed during 1896 to	
Destructor ... ..	1542
Ditto, deposited on land ... ..	3036

The Haywood Hospital, (containing 31 beds) built in 1879, and enlarged 1890, <sup>82 + 97</sup> has continued its useful work amongst the poorer inhabitants of the Borough who may be suffering from sickness or accidents, and its beds have been fully taken up during the year.

No. of Patients admitted during 1896	...	...	244
Surgical Cases	...	...	142
Medical „	...	...	102
Of whom there were discharged, cured	...	...	183
„ „ relieved	...	...	16
„ „ incurable	...	...	1
„ „ unrelieved	...	...	1
„ „ at own request	...	...	2
„ „ to Sanatorium	...	...	2
„ „ died	...	...	14
Remaining in Hospital, December 31, 1896	...	...	25
Average No. of days in Hospital for each patient	...	...	33½
Out-patients dressings	...	...	4628
In-patients operations	...	...	39
Sent to Convalescent Homes	...	...	16
Accident cases	...	...	56
Dental cases	...	...	40
2 Deaths occurred within one week of admission, and 3 under 24 hours.			

The Public Baths have been in full operation during the year, and it is to be hoped that even more use will be made of the Turkish and Vapour baths by the inhabitants of the Borough, such as their complete and efficient condition ought to ensure.

During 1896, there were notified the following cases of Infectious Diseases :—

184	cases of	Scarlatina
11	„	Diphtheria
45	„	Enteric Fever
14	„	Erysipelas
1	„	Continued Fever
3	„	Membranous Croup

Of the above, 29 cases of Scarlatina were removed to the Bradwell Isolation Hospital.

I find there is still much prejudice shown by parents against the removal of infected children to the Hospital.

The common lodging houses of the Borough have been regularly inspected during the year, and reported to be conducted according to regulations.

The registered Lodging Houses are :—

Gavin, Thomas	16 lodgers	2, High Street
Lamb, Michael	8 „	53, „
Hulme, Hannah	36 „	81, „
Qualter, Simon	10 „	1, Mayers Bank
Gainard, Margaret	8 „	3, „
Garry, Margaret	4 „	7, „
Burke, Patrick	10 „	27, Wellington Street
Jennings, Winifred	6 „	22, „
Carty, Martin	6 „	26, „
Bowen, Wm.	17 „	27, Commercial Street
Haley, John	26 „	1, Lower Hadderidge

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Total 147

No legal prosecution was found necessary as regards above during the year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. TAYLOR, M.O.H.

L.R.C.P., Lond., D.P.H., Camb., &c.

*Burslem,*

*March 1st, 1897.*



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